From: Kelly Tornow
To: Heather Baker
Subject: FW: NC Insider for May 1, 2026
Date: Friday, May 1, 2026 12:03:30 AM

From: NC Insider <ncinsider@stateaffairs.com>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2026 12:03:16 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: Kelly Tornow <ktornow@email.wcu.edu>
Subject: NC Insider for May 1, 2026

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YOU DON'T SAY

“The billion dollars — that’s money that we could send back to the taxpayers in income tax relief.”

IN TODAY'S INSIDER

NC closes Medicaid shortfall — with next year's $1 billion rebase already looming

Gov. Josh Stein on Thursday signed legislation lawmakers sent to his desk within a week of reconvening for the short session that fully funds a $319 million shortfall in the state's Medicaid program — a bill lawmakers approved with broad bipartisan support...

Childcare Subsidies: Early education and business leaders are encouraging legislators to set a state minimum for child care subsidy reimbursement rates...

Hospital Fees: A state Senate committee advanced a bill Thursday that would limit the fees hospitals can charge Medicaid for outpatient care...

Elections Hire: Earlier this year, the North Carolina State Board of Elections hired an outside law firm closely tied to Republican politicians to defend it in a court case regarding early voting sites on college campuses...

EpiPen Settlement: North Carolina Attorney General Jeff Jackson and State Treasurer Brad Briner on Thursday announced the terms of a settlement with an EpiPen manufacturer...

Water Transfers: Area elected officials are the latest to voice their opposition of a Wake County town's plan to remove millions of gallons of water from the Cape Fear River without returning it...

Energy Rates: For speaker after speaker inside a Mecklenburg County courtroom Wednesday night, Duke Energy's proposed rate hike wasn't about percentages or filings, it was about whether another jump in monthly bills could mean skipping meals...

UNCW Med School: Rep. John Bell, R-Wayne, drives 85 minutes to see his primary care physician in Scotts Hill...

A MESSAGE FROM HEAL THE SYSTEM

Insurance delays are pushing care out of reach

When care is stuck in prior authorization limbo, patients don't just wait – conditions can worsen and costs can rise. These delays put access to care at risk when it matters most.

Hold insurers accountable.

ADDITIONAL REPORTING

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PLURIBUS NEWS

States work to lift childcare enrollment freezes

(*State Affairs National*) Officials in at least four states — Colorado, Indiana, Maryland and South Carolina — have frozen enrollment in childcare subsidy programs due to a lack of funds, while officials in states including Missouri and Texas are managing long wait lists...

A MESSAGE FROM HEAL THE SYSTEM

Insurance denials are shifting costs to patients

You pay your premiums. You expect coverage. Yet, claims vanish into denials, and patients are left with unexpected bills. Insurance practices shift costs onto North Carolinians while insurers protect their bottom line.

Fix the tricks.

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